

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 /036 W

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P R 201415Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4778

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0968

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LU, UN

SUBJECT: CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT THORN'S ABSENCES FROM  
NEW YORK

1. PRIME MINISTER THORN'S EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT PAUL  
HELMINGER CALLED DCM ON NOVEMBER 20 TO ASK IF EMBASSY IS  
AWARE OF CRITICISM OF THORN'S "FREQUENT ABSENCES" APPARENTLY  
CIRCULATING IN SOME CIRCLES IN NEW YORK. HELMINGER SAID  
THAT A GOOD DEAL OF THE CRITICISM COMES FROM LUXEMBOURG'S  
EEC PARTNERS, PARTICULARLY THE FRENCH, AND THE PRIME  
MINISTER'S CONCERN IS THAT IT MAY ALSO BE COMING IN PART  
FROM U.S. OFFICIALS. HE ADDED THAT THORN IS HERE FOR IMPORTANT  
BUDGET DEBATES AND CONSULTATIONS WITHIN HIS GOVERNMENT  
AS WELL AS FOR MUCH NEEDED REST. HE PLANS TO RETURN TO  
NEW YORK DECEMBER 3 UNLESS CYPRUS QUESTION AND SAHARA QUESTION  
SHOULD COME BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEXT WEEK, IN WHICH  
CASE HE WOULD GO BACK TO NEW YORK THAT WEEK TO PRESIDE.  
HELMINGER SAID THORN REGRETTED HIS ABSENCE DURING THE KOREAN  
VOTE AND RECOGNIZED THAT SOME PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS MIGHT HAVE  
BEEN AVOIDED HAD HE BEEN THERE, BUT THAT HE FEELS HIS RECORD  
OF ATTENDANCE IN NEW YORK IS AS GOOD AS IT POSSIBLY COULD BE  
GIVEN HIS OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE VAGARIES OF UNGA  
SCHEDULING. DCM RESPONDED THAT EMBASSY IS UNAWARE OF ANY  
CRITICISM OF THORN AND THAT WE HAVE CERTAINLY NOT HEARD  
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OF ANY ORIGINATING FROM U.S. OFFICIALS.

2. COMMENT: HELMINGER WAS CLEARLY DEFENSIVE ABOUT THORN'S ATTENDANCE RECORD AT THE UN. HE HINTED THAT THORN WOULD RETURN TO NEW YORK DURING WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24-28 WERE IT NOT FOR HIS DOCTOR'S ADAMANT INSISTENCE ON REST AND RECUPERATION AFTER THE STATE OF PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION THORN PERMITTED HIMSELF TO FALL INTO DURING THE PAST HECTIC WEEKS. FARKAS

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## Message Attributes

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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**To:** STATE USUN NEW YORK  
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